

THE

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1957

ScOPE



A stylized graphic consisting of multiple sets of parallel red lines radiating from a central point. The lines are arranged in a fan-like pattern, with some sets being vertical and others angled. The lines are of varying lengths and thicknesses, creating a dynamic, sunburst-like effect. The graphic is positioned behind the letters 'S', 'c', 'O', 'P', and 'E' of the title 'ScOPE'.



PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY



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THE SCOPE



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THE BARE FACTS

by DUKE DRUCKER

The following is a fictionalized account of one class in an upperclassman's life at M.C.O.

7:59 A.M.

People are singing. There are smiling faces.

8:00 A.M.

A piercing ring of the alarm bell. The smiles are frozen, and gloom descends like a shroud. HE slowly shambles into the room. The tension mounts. In a quiet bellow HE calls the roll. All are present except for Gaudette; he has to feed the baby.

8:05 A.M.

The ordeal by fire begins (also known as "calling-on-students-who don't-know-anything-to-do-the-homework-problems").

HE slyly glances around at the quivering mass of humanity before him, and nonchalantly calls out in a soft roar:

Miller-r-r-r-r, do the first problem.

MILLER: Yeah man. (He's got a perfect record — never missed calling on me for 3 years) I couldn't get this one sir. Reason: I knew too much, and therefore I was confused.

"Hey, hey, hey, hey," cried Sezzin, as he climbed off Klapper. "I know, I know. I did it with my own two little heads, by my own wonderful method. I used Portzrebie's Derivative of the 3rd Umlaut, transposed, integrated, divided by the last 3 numbers of the Treasury Report, and copied the rest from Rascati."

HE: Klapper, what's the reason?

KLAPPER: (fiercely whispering to Sezzin, "Macy what's the reason?")

SEZZIN: (in a fierce whisper, "I don't know, Tweedle-Dum")

KLAPPER: Er, er, sir, the reason is, I don't know Tweedle-Dum.

HE: My son, your ignorance is limited only by your mental capacity.

HE: (Epstein's trying to hide by putting his head on the desk and covering it with his notebook. I'll get him as he comes up for air. In the meantime . . .) Kavner-r-r-r- do you have any opinions on this matter?

KAVNER: . . . Well, yes. I would say that this is a very difficult problem. May I go back to sleep now? If you need anymore help don't hesitate to call, preferably on someone else though. It was a rough night at the Cave, and I need my sleep.

HE: (Finkelstein's always good for a laugh. Epstein's turning purple. I wonder how much longer he can stay under that notebook?) Finklestein, speak to me.

FINKLESTEIN: UNH-H-H-H (ed. note—this is rumble in Hi-Fi).

8:45 A.M.

Gaudette comes in holding up one bandaged index finger, muttering, ". . . today was a close one. We're going to have to feed that kid more than once a day."

8:49 A.M.

HE: Epstein, comes up for air.

EPSTEIN: (All is lost. My mind's a blank. Where's the bell? Why are my hands purple?)

8:50 A.M.

HE: For homework take a few . . . dozen problems.

8:58 A.M.

HE: That will be all for today. (d - - - t. Oh well, tomorrow's another day.)

8:58:01 A.M.

People are singing. There are smiling faces . . . for you see, tomorrow is 23 hours, 2 minutes and 59 seconds away.

A recently wed husband stopped by his druggist's for another order of sleeping pills. "I don't know what I'd do without them. I'd never get any rest." "Don't take too many," the pharmacist cautioned. "Me? I don't use 'em. I give them to my wife."

A group of Madison Avenue swells were holed up in fishing shack enjoying a joint vacation when they ran out of supplies. They nominated one of their number to pull away from the poker table long enough to drive into town for replenishments. He came back with a case of gin and a loaf of bread.

"Haw about that Harry?" one of the party approved. "He even brought back something for the birds."

THE SCOPE

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Basketball For 1957-58

by DR. MITCH KUHN

(HEAD BASKETBALL COACH)

For the information of the new students, M. C. O. is a member of the "Greater Boston Small College Basketball Conference".

In 1953, M.C.O. was the Conference champs. Burdett College has been the Conference champions for the past two years, and will retire the league trophy if they win the championship again this year.

Tentative Schedule of League Games

- 1) Sat., Dec. 14 (6:15 P.M.) Emerson College at Boston Garden.
- 2) Mon., Jan. 13, Newton Jr. College — away.
- 3) Mon., Feb. 3 Chamberlayne Jr. College — home.
- 4) Wed., 5, New England School of Theology — away.
- 5) Mon., Feb. 10, Chamberlayne Jr. College — away.

- 6) Wed., Feb. 12, Newton Jr. College — home.
- 7) Wed., Feb. 19, Burdett College—away.
- 8) Mon., Feb. 24, Emerson College—home.
- 9) Mon., Mar. 3, Burdett College—home.
- 10) Wed., Mar. 5, New England School of Theology—home.

Veterans from last year's squad include:

Feldman, Marshall—soph—forward
Garber, Norman—soph—forward
Hughes, Phil—sr. (co-capt.)—forward
Kagen, Sumner—sr. (co-capt.)—guard
Lombardo, Joseph—jr.—guard
Manning, Paul—sr.—guard
Varnum, Ken—soph—forward

Added to this nucleus, are seven new candidates, who should measurably strengthen the squad. The following are the promising new players:

Brodsky, Bruce—fresh.
Comalli, Joseph—soph
Glenn, Richard—fresh
Coffin, George—fresh
Margulis, Reuben—fresh
Sachs, Robert—fresh
Jeretzian, Arthur—fresh

This may well prove to be the strongest M.C.O. squad in several years.

The young man looked at the high prices on the night club menu and then turned to his date and said, "What will you have, my plump little doll?"

A teacher, lecturing on highway safety, advised the children that once they started to cross the street, they should never look back. "Remember what happened to Lot's wife," she said. "She looked back and turned into a pillar of salt."

"I was out driving with my mother last week," one child volunteered. "She looked back and turned into a telephone pole."

"Grand Coulee," yelled the devout man as he hit his finger with the hammer.

"What do you mean by yelling 'Grand Coulee'?" asked his wife.

"That," he replied, "is the world's largest dam, isn't it?"

Customer: Why do you have an apple for a trademark? You're a tailor.

Tailor: Well, if it hadn't been for an apple, where would the clothing business be?

FRATERNAL LIFE

by THOMAS A. CALLAHAN

Whenever bodies of men have been gathered together, more or less permanently, they have tended to separate into groups based upon kindred tastes, aims, interests or other causes. This was so even in the medieval universities, where the students separated into the "nations" as they were called, drawn together by race or clan ties. In Oxford or Cambridge it took the form of the fellowship of the Common Room. In this country it early developed through various kinds of societies, the most permanent of which have been the college secret societies, or fraternities. The first one of these bearing a Greek-letter name was founded at the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg, Virginia, in 1776 and called Phi Beta Kappa. It was secret in its nature, but formed for social and literary purposes and held regular and frequent meetings. In December, 1779, it authorized chapters at Yale and Harvard. The next year the parent chapter closed temporarily because of the fighting which prevailed in the vicinity of Williamsburg.

In August of 1826 the abduction from Canandaigua, N. Y., of William Morgan, who professed to be a Royal Arch Mason, and had threatened to publish and expose of the secrets of Freemasonry caused an intense excitement, especially throughout New York State. It was taken as proving the terrible power and outrageous irresponsibility of secret societies, and the attack was upon all such. Every effort was made by the college authorities to stamp out the secret societies and fraternities on the campuses, under the mistaken idea that the element of secrecy was a cloak for dissipation, immorality and all else that was bad, although the fact was usually quite the contrary. Dr. Hamilton W. Mabie said in THE OUTLOOK, July, 1906,

"Those who know of the origin of most of the important fraternities, know how unfounded this suspicion was; for, as a rule, the fraternities were expressions of youthful idealism organized by young men of the highest personal and scholarly ambitions; and the element of secrecy was a concession to the youthful love of mys-

tery, and the very natural instinct which conceals the secret hopes and ideals of youth as nature hides the tenderest shoot from the seed under the protection of the soil."

In the ATLANTIC MONTHLY for July, 1879, Edward Everett Hale gives the history of Phi Beta Kappa, and tells how,

"The storm and indignation which Morgan's death aroused created the Anti-Masonic party, and the general crusade against secret societies. Poor Phi Beta Kappa was called upon to give up such secrets as she had, and did so. After a series of exciting meetings held in Boston, under the eager pressure of John Quincy Adams, from whose diary most of the history of the transaction may be learned, the Harvard Phi Beta Kappa voted to remit all obligations of secrecy."

Phi Beta Kappa is now purely honorary and no longer a secret society, and takes in only those attaining the highest rank, including women and also men from all the different fraternities. Its membership and pin are about the only general recognition of high rank given in the colleges.

Thus we have a brief resume' of the history of fraternities in general and a fairly good idea how in the early days of university life in this country they were persecuted. The purpose of this article is not to instruct as to the history of fraternities, *per se*, but rather to give background and some thought to our own professional fraternities at MCO. For the freshman and transfer students, the rushing season is upon them, and is a period where each fraternity tries very hard to enlist new members from the pool of prospective candidates. This consisted mainly of a smoker for each and additional little talks to the candidates by a brother usually in the halls or over a cup of coffee. To the prospective Greek-Man it has no doubt created for him a sense of confusion after awhile as to which of the two frats to join. This is bound to happen since both are good organizations.

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WHITHER TIME ??

by HASKELL GOTTESMAN

Recently, a student was overheard lamenting the fact that as a freshman he was faced with four long, ever-so-long, interminably long years ahead of him. In a strange city, for the first time away from home, with piles of work heaped on him by pitiless professors, with friendships difficult to form at first, with nothing to look at evenings but the four walls of a rented housekeeping room, it is a testimony to his faith in his chosen profession that he doesn't pack his grip after a month's trial and run for friendlier territory.

But wait! What of the poor senior, who, by the time he reaches that exalted position after suffering the abuse of a strange city for four years, must certainly be so anxious for the day of commencement that he can smell the sweet air of liberty even now? But, alas, such is not the case. Many of us will indeed be sorry to hear the final bell toll on our college careers. For then we will have left to us only the memories of those wonderful years gone by.

No longer will we be able to experience that greatest of all college sensations — that feeling one gets after the last examination has been compleed in May and you're off for a summer vacation. Then come the broken promises to keep up with the schoolwork and, what seems to be the very next day, the gay reunions in September. For the senior there are no more summer vacations as we are used to knowing them, no more broken vows, no more reunions. Obligations must be met, and they know no seasonal bounds

How it will be hard to say "good-bye" to this dear old town! Before I do so, I'm sure I would have to gasp once again at the geautiful sight of the city from atop Summit Avenue, dine once again at Durgin Park, or have Sunday luncheon at Jack and Marion's. Of course we couldn't leave without one last outing with the boys to the "Sevens" for a round of good cheer . . . In the spring, we'll have to listen to our last Pops concert; take our last trip to the Boston Public Library; watch the Fed Sox in action for the last time; do our last bit of shopping in Filene's basement; eat our last hamburger at Peter Pan. One day we may

find the number LONGwood 6-8910 in an address book somewhere and we'll recall the endless hours of waiting to get a telephone call into the Simmons College dormitory; the lilt-ing scent of perfume, the wonderful evenings, the one o'clock curfews, the taxi rides home when the MTA stopped running.

Take heart all ye freshmen. The gates of your college careers are barely open yet. When they open wide, be prepared to taste the wonderful experiences this city will offer you. They are many and you will grow to cherish them all.

In a short while commencement will be upon us, too soon for some of us. After all, there's so much yet we've left undone and must attend to before we leave.

But the time will soon be up. The speeches will be read; the diplomas will be handed out. We'll march out of the auditorium, and then, out of the city forever. No, that cannot be. We will make it our business, to return once again.

Ah, whither time?

Two long-time friends were telling each other their trouble over a drink.

"My business is failing and I'm losing all my money," complained the first. "And to top off everything, my wife has cut me down to once a week."

"Well," said the second, "it could be worse."

"How could it possibly be?" asked the first.

"Well," replied the second, "I know two guys she cut off altoget'her."

Two farmers were returning from the local tavern one afternoon when they noticed a lamb stuck in a barbed wire fence.

"I wish that was Marilyn Monroe stuck in that fence like that," remarked one.

"I just wish it was dark," replied the other.

A couple of girls were being followed by a single, lonely sailor. At last one of them turned and said, "Stop trailing us, you wolf. Or go get another sailor."

Optometric Notes

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY ELECTS NEW TRUSTEES

Dr. Joseph F. Montminy, President of the Corporation of the Massachusetts College of Optometry, recently announced the election of Reverend John David Erb to the Board of Trustees for a period of three years.

Reverend Erb is minister of the Copley Methodist Church, editor of the *Zion's Herald*, and a member of the corporation of the New England Deaconess Hospital. He received his A.B. from Ashland College; his M.A. from Ohio State University; and his Bachelor and Master of Sacred Theology from Boston University. He also studied at Harvard University and Oxford University, England. Reverend Erb replaces Reverend Emory Bucke who resigned from the Board to assume a position in Nashville, Tennessee.

OBITUARY

Scott Sterling, 1180 Park Avenue, Rochester, New York, Bausch & Lomb Early Settler, nationally famous designer of ophthalmic lenses, died at his home on November 1.

As a writer and lecturer on the subject of spectacle lens design, Mr. Sterling was known from coast to coast. On this subject, he has lectured in all of the 48 states; and articles over his name have appeared frequently in the *Bausch & Lomb Magazine* and other trade publications. He is credited with the design of Orthogon Lenses and Orthogon D Bifocals and was the prime exponent of the concept that corrected lenses should be corrected for those errors for which the human eye cannot accommodate.

His scientific interest embraced a broad range of optical theory and design. The Variable Power Rifle Sight, a comparatively recent Bausch & Lomb product, is based upon an optical design which he proposed.

TWELVE EARN MASSACHUSETTS LICENSES

The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Optometry has announced the licensing of 12 successful applicants following the recent examinations conducted by the board. The names, released by Dr. John E. Quinn, secretary of the board, follow:

Joseph W. Alger, Manchester, N. H.; Martin J. Baer, Woburn, Mass.; Ronald A. Gregorio, Southbridge, Mass.; Joseph J. Donato, Newtonville, Mass.; Jack B. Fruchtman, Bronx, N. Y.; Gertld J. Garand, Lawrence, Mass.; George E. Garcia, Worcester, Mass.; Lawrence Miles, Boston, Mass.; Edward W. Richards, Arlington, Mass.; Philip M. Shapiro, Hartford, Conn.; Robert M. Shulman, Everett, Mass.; and Richard A. Susskind, Boston, Mass.

DRAFT DOCTORS LAW

We reported the enactment of H.R. 6548, to revise the Draft Doctors Law, now known as Public Law 85-62. As a result of correspondence which we have since received, we should point out that no optometrist will be inducted into the Armed Services, if he is or has been rejected for appointment as a reserve officer on the sole ground of a physical disqualification, nor will any optometrist be inducted who is over 35 years old or has served on active duty as an optometrist for one year (other than training), or if he holds a reserve commission.

For some time the bachelor girl had been considering furniture for her new apartment. Budget in mind, she finally narrowed her selection to a choice between a comfortable armchair and a wide sofa. As her interest seemed to center on the chair, the clerk tried to clinch the sale by saying: "You can't go wrong on a chair like that, miss."

"I'll take the sofa," said the girl as though she'd just remembered something.

DRUM BEATING WON'T DO IT

by A. F. FISCHER, O.D.

In the late thirties when the maniacal Hitler was spewing vituperation and threats to world peace the writer (then a member of the Administrative Staff of an optometric college) counseled Optometry to prepare for wartime, post-war and peace-time by securing legislation to commission optometrists in the Armed Forces and thus protect its educational system against war-time loss of students, post-war boom followed by a peace-time loss of students.

But in the prosperity of the late thirties, born of the obvious conflagration to come and following everyone — including our schools — was doing relatively well. Smugness closed men's eyes, ears and minds. The counsel for preparation was lightly shrugged aside.

Not even on the fatal day of December 7, 1941 was the obvious realized; but as the months wore on the predicted effects became apparent. As the draft-decimated optometric student bodies continued to shrink, retrenchment became an imperative necessity. College staffs and faculties were sharply reduced in numbers and in pay. Standards sank. The then "too little and too late" AOA had to be goaded into even a faltering attempt to get commissions for optometrists and the goading had to be done by optometrists in the services (as non-commissioned personnel) who banded together and formed a "pressure group" within Optometry. (Had that not been done there is serious question whether we would have commissions even today!)

Sustained by the hope of later salvation by the educational provisions of the G.I. Bill of Rights our colleges managed to hang on. Then came the bonanza of the G.I. students.

Heavy mails brought torrents of applications to the schools. All schools were filled to capacity — some beyond. One, which had become financially involved during the war years, over-expanded and threatened great discredit to Optometry. Indeed, the lawsuits which that situation spawned were concluded only this year.

Things went well student-wise for a number of years and then the rich vein of G.I. students

gave out — just at a time when the available supply of college-age youth was at a serious low because of depression-and-war-lowered birth rates. Enrollment in optometric colleges plummeted again and once more the "bloom was off the rose."

Suddenly there was great awareness that something was wrong, something had to be done. "SOS" — "Save Our Schools" — Otherwise Optometry would wither and die from lack of replacements. Even Optical manufacturers fearing an eventual loss of the market they do and can reach only through Optometry, got in the verbal act.

Enter now The Drum Beaters. "Scream", they screamed, "for new students. Beat your chest, the bushes and the drums. You — Local Society, State Association, Joe Blow, O.D. — this is *your* problem. Never mind whether your town, your area or your state is surfeited with the very recent flood of struggling or failing ex-G.I.'s, now O.D.'s; scream and beat the drums."

During the halcyon days of the G.I. bonanza "living was high" and the future could care for itself. But during this very period a great change was in progress and it came into full blossom just about the time the supply of G.I.'s petered out.

American Industry deep into an unprecedented era of technological development and expansion found itself shorthanded in technical personnel. With wise directness American Industry set out to — and promptly did — obtain the technically trained personnel it needs by making the various technical fields overwhelmingly attractive through the simple expedients of financial aid to technical schools, financial aid to technical students, good starting pay and good future prospects.

Today Optometry and all other health care disciplines, in varying degrees, are on the very short end of an enormous competition with the impregnably placed technical schools for students from the presently small available supply of college-age youth.

To further complicate Optometry's problem, the cost of optometric education has increased

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FRESHMAN REVIEW

by those heavenly twins

Bob Nochimson and Don Saferstein

The time has rolled around again for the second exciting installment of the Freshman Review. We are sure everyone has been waiting with bated breath to read this most informative article.

The Freshman Class has finally elected its officers for the year: *President*, Paul White, *Vice-President*, Bob Nochimson, *Secretary-Treasurer*, Bob Kenney, *Student Council Representative for one year*, Larry Ferguson, *Student Council Representative for two years*, Don Saferstein. The class has great confidence that these men, with their tremendous responsibility will carry out their campaign promises.


By now the individual members of the class have pledged the Fraternity of their choice. We are sure that these men have made a wise and careful decision and joined the Fraternity which they believed offered them the most. We feel however, that no matter which Fraternity

was joined the class will still remain together as a unit. (RAH-RAH).

Still being quite a bit in the dark about optometry, we are all waiting for that great day when we shall go down to the clinic for our refractions so we can watch those masters of the trade, the Seniors perform great wonders upon us and tell what is wrong with our eyes. The good old Freshman, (the human guinea pigs) get the brunt of everything.

We also would like to know when those members of the upper classes, who challenged the Freshman to a football game can get out of their rocking chairs for a few minutes of exercise. You's better watch out we're up for the game and really tough.

Those of you who have managed to wade through this article don't feel badly because it's coming to an end. In the next edition of

Continued on next page 

the *Scope* there will be another exciting installment, including all the latest news about the activities of the Freshman Class.

Thus having ended our regular informative article we shall now have for all you busy-bodies the latest class gossip.

What Freshman has slugged in the eye by his girl friend while waiting for a bus?

What Freshman was slugged in the eye by himself a great help in Physics Lab. will jump off the John Hancock building in the interest of science and prove " $g=32 \text{ ft./sec}^2$ " (Hint: his initial are Arthur Pertzian).

That's about it for the latest gossip, but remember this, "The best time to swim the English Channel is — when there's water in it."

FRATERNAL LIFE

(Cont. from page 4)

The actual place the fraternity has in our institution is an important facet of your decision. The fraternity should not be an end in itself for which college lives are sacrificed; rather it should be the means to the end of getting the most of the college education as it is being offered. It should be a strong within itself in order to carry out those principles, and it should be an organization where the members take an interest. Not only in the fraternity but in our college in general in my opinion, are there too many students who come in the morning and leave in the evening having done nothing to improve the school or to help their fellow students. Our college is not just a required place to be for 4 years in order to get the right to practice optometry, but it is also the breeding ground for future relationships, it is the fermenting station for life's ideals, and a meeting house for organizing action to improve our school and profession.

This is where our fraternities fit in, they give opportunity for discussion of situations which need correcting within the school, not in open rebellion but rather in serious and constructive discussion with a course of action decided upon for the rectification of the trouble. It is a place where a brother who is having difficulty calls upon his brothers for help and where it is given gladly. To these ends must every fraternity member dedicate himself.

Along with the serious side of fraternal life comes the relaxing side, the parties, dances, and other social events. The fraternity in our school is the sole group which has the organization set up to make the small activity a success. The student council with all its power and finances sees fit to promote one dance a year, The Eyeball, which was a huge success last year. To the frats does the responsibility fall in promoting the social life for MCO

students, a part of student life which is as important as any course taken in the four years.

The pledges will be thoroughly broken in by the firm but kindly rule of the upper classmen, backed by years of wise traditions and customs, which represents what has been best in many colleges generations of splendid young men who have been thoroughly devoted to their fraternity as their college home. A disgrace to a brother is considered a reproach to the whole chapter.

In summation we can see that the fraternity is not merely a place to eat your lunch or read the daily paper, but is *de facto* an organization which when properly administered, is a help to all who belong and to the school in which it is an integral part.

DRUM BEATING . . .

(Cont. from page 7)

while the financial rewards of optometric practice have, at the very best, barely kept abreast of the rising cost of living. Additional complication arose with the growth of "quickie optical plans" and optometry dropped into a shamefully maudlin frame of mind epitomized by the absurd, scare-seeking and self-pitying expression, "Creeping Death."

Only one thing will succeed in attracting students to our colleges. That one thing is a profession practiced universally according to the Rules of Practice and attractive in terms of prestige, public acceptance and financial reward that competes with other fields of endeavor.

Let's silence the drums and get down to the job of increasing patient traffic and practitioner income in Rules of Practice offices from ocean to ocean and border to border.

With that accomplished we can unmuffle the drums and beat out a meaningful tattoo.

Use of Hypnosis in Visual Correction

by **ERWIN L. GIENKE, B.S.**

15 E. MAIN STREET, ILION, N. Y.

The writer has been theorizing for some time on the possible uses of hypnotism in connection with ocular work. Le Cron cites cases of the near-sighted subject showing marked improvement in visual acuity without his correction when under hypnosis. Also, Dr. Flanders Dunbar, in her book "Mind and Body," suggests that near-sightedness may be a defense mechanism to protect oneself from the outside world.

With the wider acceptance of the functional conception of vision as over against a mechanical concept, and with the introduction of the psychosomatic concept of vision, there seems to be a greater realization of a distinct connection between hypnotism and ocular correction, since it has long been demonstrated that under hypnosis certain changes in the psychosomatic functioning of the organism can be brought about or induced . . .

...The purpose of this article is merely to stimulate interest in definite experimentation in this realm; to set up some center or "clearing-house" for information that has been gleaned in the past; and to arrive at some correlation between past knowledge and controlled experiments which might be suggested to further this thesis. As far as the writer can determine very little has been attempted, particularly under well-regulated laboratory conditions.

Hypnosis as a therapeutic tool in dentistry and medicine, as well as in psychiatry, has overwhelmingly been established, and it is already reaching into the educational field. It is no longer a novelty, nor is there anything mysterious or occult about it.

Dentistry is using hypnosis to control and eliminate pain in the extraction of teeth and reduction of the blood flow. Medicine uses hypnotism in surgery in a similar manner, and has found that it is a valuable aid in obstetrics . . .

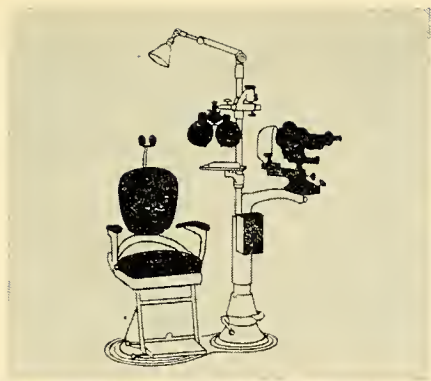
The writer has had considerable success in using suggestions in order to reduce and eliminate some degrees of myopia in the waking state, without hypnosis. He has had several cases on the adolescent age level come to him

where the patients had changed from hyperopes to myopes, falling from 100% V.A. to about 20 or 30% V.A.

The case of P.G., a high school freshman, age 15, is a perfect illustration. It is one of several typical cases which follow the same pattern. The dynamic refraction showed the need for plus lenses in the nature of plus 1.25 or plus 1.50 D. This, of course, blurred her for distance. By cutting the plus by quarter diopters at a time, however, the patient was told that she could see considerably better with each small change. (I believe our attitude in the refraction room and what we tell the patient at the time lens changes are made does influence the patient's level of vision. The patients want to see clearly. If the suggestion is made that they will see more clearly, they respond better than if nothing is said or if a hesitant attitude regarding the effect of the lenses is assumed.)

I had two neutralizing lenses left in the trial frame (+ .25 sphere — .25 sphere) and the patient was reading the 20/20 line at distance with them. Upon removal of the trial frame, the patient was asked to read an equivalent 20/20 line, but she could not. She was able to read only the 50 or 60% V.A. line of letters. After replacing the trial frame with the two neutralizing lenses in it, she again read the 100% line through them. She was told that the trial frame contained lenses that simply neutralized each other and should have no effect on her vision when removed. After the trial frame was removed, she saw only 70 or 80% without these lenses, despite the fact that she previously read 100% with the trial frame on and had been told that she should see as well without it. The fact that she was seeing better without the lenses than when she entered the office was impressed on her. She was told that she could see as well as anyone without glasses. This was strongly impressed on her by repetition. She was asked to return in a week and was told that each day her vision at distance without correction would improve.

She returned after this interval seeing 80 to 100% V.A. A correction of +.50 or +.75



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was given to her at this time, and she was told to wear the correction for near application only. She could wear the lenses constantly if she wanted in order to hold the psychological gain that was accomplished by the previous suggestion and in order to relieve the near-point load which undoubtedly precipitated the condition.

I sometimes wonder to what degree the lenses that are prescribed to patients in routine practice actually change the brain patterns or the organism localization in space. I also wonder whether the suggestions given to the patient that this will occur with the use of the lenses actually brings about the reorganization of the learned brain pattern. This, of course, would make interesting research.

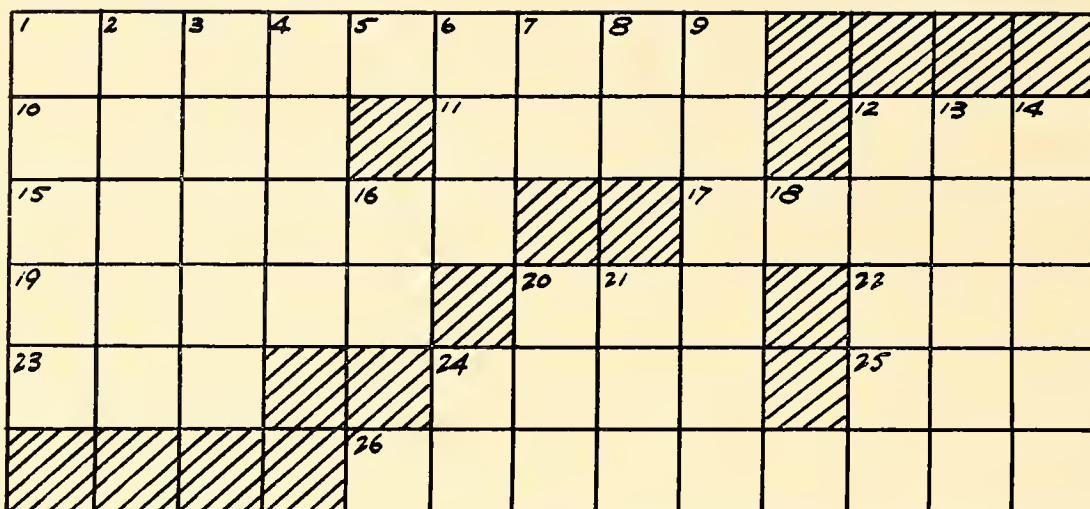
Some of the men who have been working with visual training have found, to their amazement, that several of the patients who were "stutterers" were cured of their stuttering after the re-orientation of their visual problem was completed under visual training. It is also known that stuttering, in many cases, can be easily corrected through the use of hypnotism. It seems that the reorientation of brain patterns of vision and speech defects are allied to some degree.

In addition to the waking type of suggestion previously described, I believe that cases of myopia, particularly in the adolescent stage where the myopia is not deeply imbedded, could be reversed back to hyperopia if the patient was hypnotized, and given the suggestion that he could see without glasses. I further believe that a post-hypnotic suggestion should be given to the patient so that this ability would be retained after he awakened. Of course, as in all other hypnotic treatment, it would necessarily need to be re-enforced from time to time until the new pattern of vision was firmly implanted in the patient's mind.

However, the use of plus lenses for near to hold this gain would still be indicated to eliminate the basic cause of his myopia and help him to re-orient himself in his new visual pattern.

Mild cases of comparatively low degrees of myopia should be attempted first, including cases uncomplicated with any marked degree of astigmatism, since high astigmatism is more of a structural change and will not respond as well as simple spherical errors.

Further experiments along the following line might be conducted if the above procedure does not prove too effective. Cont. next page



180th MERIDIAN

- 1—Visual sensations which occur from within the eye (Pl)
 10—To vault
 11—Pert. to ear
 12—Before the common Era (Abbr.)
 15—A flavoring syrup tasting like almonds
 17—Judean King
 19—Stately old dance (Contracted form)
 20—Suffix denoting one of a party
 22—Egg (Combining form)
 23—Snakelife fish
 24—Bivalve mollusk
 25—American Expeditionary Forces (Abbr.)
 26—Farming

90th MERIDIAN

- 1—To leave home with a lover.
 2—That which is needed to sit through Dr. Namias' class when you haven't done the homework
 3—Native of Malayan race on Philippine Is.
 4—" — Door Policy"
 5—The 3rd of September
 6—Small child
 7—What Clara Bow had
 8—Caroline Islands (Abbr.)
 9—Plan
 12—Roomy
 13—To shield
 14—To build
 18—The 6th of October
 16—Aged (Lat. Abbr.)
 20—Instrument landing system (Abbr.)
 21—A bill (slang)
 24—Copper (sym.)
 26—Hydrogen (Sym.)

SOLUTION TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLE

180th MERIDIAN

- 1—Helmholtz, 10—Uvea 11—Cone 12—Barr
 15—Mental 17—Phose 19—Ortho 20—Hah
 22—Zyl 23—Rye 24—Baby 25—Bio
 26—Tcherning

90th MERIDIAN

- 1—Humor 2—Every 3—Lente 4—Math 5—H
 6—OCL 7—LO 8—TN 9—Zephyr 12—Bozbi
 13—Asyin 14—Relog 16—AO 20—Hah
 21—Abe 24—BC

hypnotic suggestion is given to the patient that after awakening he will be able to perform visually as he did at an earlier age level.

Similar experiments are being conducted in educational work with hypnosis, in connection with learning ability at earlier age levels, so that at a later date memory and comprehension has the same capacity as it had when it was in its prime at an earlier age level.

The permanence of any treatment of this type would naturally vary with individuals, and it would have to be re-enforced from time to time, as the need arose.

Under hypnosis, subjects will seem to lose their inhibitions and will talk freely even about unpleasant experiences. Most men who have had experience in visual correction know the effect of mental states on the individual, and the effects of previous nervous and emotional shocks, as well as obsessions or repressions that may be in the minds. Cases are on record where complete or hysterical blindness for a temporary period have been induced by such mental conditions.

(To be concluded next issue)

USE OF HYPNOSIS (Cont.)

I have been able to hypnotize individuals and regress them quite easily, so that it might be possible to take a patient under hypnosis and regress him to a period several years before the onset of his myopia. The suggestion is then given, under hypnosis, that he would be able to see at this age level. Further, a post-



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